

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PA-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-11 AID-05 /094 W  
-----096694 010301Z /23

R 291650Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1276  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T NOFORN LIBREVILLE 1794

E.O. 11652: &\$  
5-& : PEPR, GB, CG  
SUBJ: PRESIDENT BONGO ON PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND ZAIRE

REF: STATE 155777, STATE 160652

1. DURING CONVERSATION JUNE 29, PRESIDENT BONGO RAISED SITUATION IN ZAIRE WITH ME, REFERRING IN PARTICULAR TO HIS RECENT MEETING WITH MOBUTU IN FRANCEVILLE (LIBREVILLE 1726). ACCORDING TO BONGO, HE TOLD MOBUTU THAT HE MUST GET HIS OWN HOUSE IN ORDER, THAT ZAIRE AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED SEEMED TO HIM TO BE TOO LARGE AND DISPARATE TO GOVERN UNDER PRESENT SYSTEM. WHAT WAS NEEDED WAS GREATER AUTONOMY FOR INDIVIDUAL PROVINCES.

2. MOBUTU TOLD HIS HIS BIGGEST PROBLEM WAS LARGE NUMBER OF DISSIDENT ZAIRIANS CURRENTLY OVERSEAS. BONGO SEIZED OPENING TO TELL MOBUTU ONCE AGAIN THAT HE SHOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THOSE PEOPLE TO RETURN AND BE INTEGRATED INTO ZAIRIAN SOCIETY AS HE HIMSELF HAD DONE TEN YEARS AGO (COMMENT: BONGO STOPPED SHORT OF TELLING ME HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MOBUTU'S AMNESTY APPEAL ANNOUNCED ON RADIO THIS MORNING, BUT HE PROBABLY WILL TAKE CREDIT FOR IT, AND IT MAY EVEN

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BE THAT HE DID INFLUENCE MOBUTU SOME.).

3. BEGIN NOFORN BONGO THEN TOLD ME VERY CONFIDENTIALLY THAT WHILE MOBUTU IS HIS FRIEND, HE HAS NOT BEEN RUNNING ZAIRE VERY WELL. UNFORTUNATELY, HE SAW NO ONE AROUND WHO COULD REPLACE HIM. HE HAD, HOWEVER, BEEN RECEIVING RUMORS OF A BELGIAN-BACKED PLOT TO BRING BACK FORMER MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND SECURITY

CHIEF NONDAKA TO TAKEOVER. I EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT  
BELGIANS WOULD BE LIKELY TO DO THAT AND HE NODDED AS IF IN  
AGREEMENT, BUT DID NOT CHANGE HIS OBSERVATION. END NOFORN.

4. I TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR OWN CONCERN ABOUT  
STABILITY OF ZAIRIAN/ANGOLAN BORDER REGION AS BEING FUNDAMENTAL  
TO FUTURE PEACE IN AREA, SAYING WE HOPED MOBUTU, AFRICAN LEADERS  
AND OAU ITSELF MIGHT FIND WAYS TO RESOLVE PROBLEM PEACE-  
FULLY THROUGH RECONCILIATION AND NEGOTIATION. BONGO AGAIN  
NODDED, AND SAID ANGOLAN "GENERAL" WAS COMING TO LIBREVILLE  
TO SEE HIM JUNE 30. BONGO DID NOT KNOW WHAT HE WANTED, BUT  
WOULD LET ME KNOW IF ANYTHING CAME OF VISIT.TIENKEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONAL OPINION, POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LIBREV01794  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 155777, 78 STATE 160652  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Date:** 18 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2429979  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT BONGO ON PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND ZAIRE  
**TAGS:** PEPR, GB, CG, (MOBUTU SESE SEKO), (BONGO, EL HADJ OMAR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014